



Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Application Pack



Burnside College

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for your interest in joining our team. Burnside College is characterised by its strong community spirit and friendly working environment. Respect is one of our core values and is tangible throughout the school. We believe that strong relationships are the fabric of any successful school. Interactions at Burnside between staff, and with pupils, are based on mutual respect and are positive.

In our most recent inspection in November 2024 OfSTED recognised that Burnside College continues to be a good school. Inspectors found that:

- Pupils enjoy working with their teachers
- Pupils behave well and meet the high expectation that the school has for their conduct
- Classrooms are calm and orderly places to learn
- Staff appreciate the positive strategies to manage their workload and support their wellbeing

These continued improvements were secured through a relentless focus on teaching and learning; we routinely consider the latest educational thinking in order to reflect on and refine what happens in classrooms. This goes hand in hand with a strong, caring, system of pastoral support and a focus on the personal development of our pupils.

Standards continue to remain high at Burnside because staff are determined to do the very best for the young people of Wallsend and always work positively, with the best interest of young people at heart.

In return the school offers excellent support and professional development. We offer high quality staff training which is personalised to the experience and needs of the individual. A particular strength is the effective programme of support in place for early years teachers. School leaders are considerate of the workload and wellbeing of staff and the school provides good career progression opportunities.

We were delighted to once again receive the Wellbeing Award for Schools in 2023 and the inspection report stated that "Burnside College is a happy place to work and learn."

We are looking to recruit staff to our team that are committed to high standards and to improving the life chances of young people. Further details about our school are available on the school website.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Jamieson
Headteacher

The Role: Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Type of Contract:	Full Time Permanent - 193 Day contract
Salary/Scale:	Grade 7 - £27,173 - £29,072
Start Date:	As soon as possible
Closing Date for Applications:	9am Friday 23rd January 2026
Interview Date:	w/c Monday 26th January 2026

We are seeking to appoint a Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) to work within our purpose developed Learning Support department. This is an exciting opportunity to join Burnside College as we continue to develop our learning support provisions and professional development pathways for staff. Applicants can look forward to becoming part of a team committed to supporting students with additional educational needs enabling them to reach their full potential.

Applicants will be highly motivated and have a passion to ensure that our students achieve the very best that they can at all times. The purpose of the role will be to uphold the core standards of **pride, respect** and **achievement** with all learners and to ensure that those with additional educational needs receive the highest standard of bespoke support.

Burnside College recognises the importance of providing the right support at the right time. Whilst being nurturing and supportive our approach allows students to develop independence and encompass responsibility for their own learning journey. Our HLTA's supervise and lead learning activities in our **bespoke** learning support provisions which focus on transitions, readiness for learning and sensory needs.

The successful candidate will:

- Supervise the delivery of the curriculum within the school's learning support functions
- Communicate effectively and sensitively with pupils to adapt to their needs and support their learning
- Demonstrate expertise and skills in understanding the needs of all pupils (including specialist expertise as appropriate) and know how to contribute effectively to the adaptation and delivery of support to meet individual needs
- Demonstrate an informed and efficient approach to teaching and learning by adopting relevant strategies to support the work of the teacher and improve student outcomes
- Support the inclusion of a target group of students with additional educational needs
- Lead on developing, delivering and monitoring bespoke plans for these students and liaise with home and external partners in relation to their effectiveness
- Support individual transition programmes for students joining Burnside and those transitioning into mainstream learning

- Support students to engage with external partners and extracurricular activities
- Act as an advocate for vulnerable students (EHA, CSC and LAC reviews)
- Develop intervention activities for individual and small groups of students in school and through extra curricular provision
- Arrange and/or participate in, for the target group of students, activities for lunch and break times
- Participate in elements of an extended school day including breakfast and after school activities
- Maintain efficient and effective lines of communication between the school and parents
- Take account of a student's individual needs and seek to maximise motivation through the use of a wide variety of approaches and behaviour management strategies
- Use effective behaviour management strategies consistently in line with the school's policy and procedures
- Support the SENCo with staff allocation as required

Burnside College is a good school, with outstanding sixth form provision. We put teaching and learning first and are committed to providing a high quality and inclusive learning experience for all. Furthermore, we are committed to the development of staff and you will be joining a supportive school with an excellent environment in which to continue your professional development.

We are confident that potential candidates would be excited by the continued changes we are making and the opportunities on offer for both staff and students. If you are considering making an application and would like to know more please get in touch with Helen Patterson, Deputy Headteacher by email, h.patterson@burnsidecollege.org.uk

Please submit the application form **accompanied by a covering letter**, of no more than two sides of A4, in which you outline your experience and suitability for the post.

Purpose of the role (job statement)

To complement the professional work of teachers by taking responsibility for agreed learning activities under an agreed system of supervision. This may involve planning, preparing and delivering learning activities for individuals/groups or short-term for whole classes and monitoring pupils and assessing, recording and reporting on pupils' achievement, progress and development.

Responsible for the management and development of a specialist area within the school and/ or management of other Teaching Assistants including allocation and monitoring of work, appraisal and training.

Main duties: Support for Pupils

- assess the needs of pupils and use detailed knowledge and specialist skills to support pupils' learning.
- establish productive working relationships with pupils, acting as a role model, and setting high expectations.
- develop and implement IEPS.
- promote the inclusion and acceptance of all pupils within the classroom.
- support pupils consistently whilst recognising and responding to their individual needs.
- encourage pupils to interact and work co-operatively with others and engage all pupils in activities.
- promote independence and employ strategies to recognise and reward achievement of self-reliance.
- provide feedback to pupils in relation to progress and achievement

Main duties: Supporting for Teachers

- organise and manage appropriate learning environment and resources.
- within an agreed system of supervision, plan challenging teaching and learning objectives to evaluate and adjust lessons/work plans, as appropriate.
- monitor and evaluate pupils' responses to learning activities through a range of assessment and monitoring strategies against pre-determined learning objectives
- provide objective and accurate feedback and reports, as required, on pupil achievement, progress and other matters: ensuring the availability of appropriate evidence.
- record progress and achievement in lessons/activities systematically and providing evidence of range and level of progress and attainment.
- work within an established discipline policy to anticipate and manage behaviour constructively, promoting self control and independence.
- supporting the role of parents in pupils' learning and contribute to/lead meetings with parents to provide constructive feedback on pupil progress/achievement etc.
- administer and assess/mark tests and invigilate exams/tests.
- production of lesson plans, worksheets, plans etc.

Main duties: Support for the Curriculum

- deliver learning activities to pupils within agreed system of supervision, adjusting activities according to pupils' responses/needs.
- deliver local and national learning strategies e g literacy, numeracy, ks3, early years and make effective use of opportunities provided by other learning activities to support the development of pupils' skills.
- use ICT effectively to support learning activities and develop pupils' competence and independence in its use.
- select and prepare resources necessary to lead learning activities, taking account of pupils' interests and language and cultural backgrounds.
- advise on appropriate deployment and use of specialist aid/resources/equipment.

Main duties: Support for the School

- comply with and assist with the development of policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting concerns to an appropriate person.
- be aware of and support difference and ensure all pupils have equal access to opportunities to learn and develop.
- contribute to the overall ethos/work/aims of the school.
- establish constructive relationships and communicate with other agencies/professionals, in liaison with the teacher, to support achievement and progress of pupils.
- take the initiative, as appropriate, to develop appropriate multi-agency approaches to supporting pupils.
- recognise own strengths and areas of specialist expertise and use these to lead, advise and support others.
- deliver out of school learning activities within guidelines established by the school.
- contribute to the identification and execution of appropriate out of school learning activities which consolidate and extend work carried out in class.

Line Management Responsibilities, where appropriate

- Manage other Teaching Assistants.
- Liaise between Managers/Teaching Staff and Teaching Assistants.
- Hold regular team meetings with managed staff.
- Represent Teaching Assistants at teaching staff/management/other appropriate meetings

Responsibilities

- be aware of, and comply with, policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security,
- confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person
- be aware of and support difference and ensure equal opportunities for all
- contribute to the overall ethos/work/aims of the school
- appreciate and support the role of other professionals
- attend and participate in relevant meetings, as required
- participate in training and other learning activities and performance development, as required.

Person Specification

Criteria E = Essential D = Desirable	
Skills, Knowledge and Aptitudes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can use ICT effectively to support learning. • Full working knowledge of relevant polices/codes of practice/legislation. • Working knowledge and experience of implementing national/foundation stage curriculum and other relevant learning programmes/strategies. • Good understanding of child development and learning processes. • Understanding of statutory frameworks relating to teaching. • Ability to organise, lead and motivate a team. • Constantly improve own practice/ knowledge through self-evaluation and learning from others. • Ability to relate well to children and adults. • Work constructively as part of a team: understanding classroom roles and responsibilities and your own position within these. 	E E E E E E E E E E
Qualifications & Training	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet Higher Level Teaching Assistant standards or equivalent qualification or experience. • Training in relevant learning strategies e.g. literacy. • Specialist skills/training in curriculum or learning area e.g. bi-lingual, sign language, ICT • Current NVQ level 2 in English and Maths or equivalent and willingness to work towards NVQ level 4 or degree equivalent in relevant discipline/job role 	E E D E
Experience	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience working with children of relevant age in a learning environment. 	E
Disposition	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to work on own initiative and as part of a team with minimal supervision • A friendly, positive and flexible approach 	E E

Burnside College is committed to safeguarding and promoting welfare of children and young people. Please note this position will require an Enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act

How to Apply

Please submit the application form **accompanied by a covering letter**, of no more than two sides of A4, in which you outline your experience and suitability for the post.

Completed applications should be returned to:

Miss K Drury
FAO: Mr D Jamieson
Burnside College
St. Peter's Road
Wallsend
NE28 7LQ
or electronically to k.drury@burnsidecollege.org.uk

Please contact the school if you require any further information relating to this post.
Telephone: 0191 2598500

Closing Date: 9am Friday 23rd January 2026

Interview Date: Week commencing Monday 26th January 2026

Burnside College is committed to safeguarding and all offers of employment are subject to satisfactory enhanced DBS clearance and other pre-employment checks.
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